
REMARKS

Amendments to the specification

Applicants have amended the specification in the first paragraph to perfect the priority claim, by, for example, deleting references to certain prior applications in the priority chain. Applicants have also amended various paragraphs throughout the specification to correct typographic errors and clerical mistakes. A replacement Table I is submitted herewith to remedy the unintentional omission of the first part of the Table I, specifically the sequences SEQ ID NOs. 1-348, and to correct certain typefaces (or fonts) so that they more accurately reflect the modification types and positions as specified in the “Aliases” column. Because the instant specification, as filed, incorporates the omitted sequences by claiming priority to and referencing the specification of one or more prior applications, for example, that of USSN 10/693,095, filed October 23, 2003, the replacement Table I does not introduce new matter.

Also submitted herewith are Replacement Figures 18, 19, and 50, each including changes to or additions of the sequence identifiers for nucleotide or peptide sequences therein. No change has been made to the sequences. Therefore the replacement figures do not introduce new matter.

Amendments to the claims

With the present submission, all prior claims have been canceled. New claims 52-56 have been added and these are the claims under consideration.

Support for the newly submitted claims can be found throughout the specification of the instant application as filed. Specifically, new claim 52 finds support in the as-filed application at, *inter alia*, page 28, lines 12-24; Tables I & IV; and Figures 18 & 19.

Support for new claim 53 can be found at, *inter alia*, page 28, lines 24-26; Tables I & IV; and Figures 18 & 19.

Support for new claim 54 can be found at, *inter alia*, page 28, lines 12-14; Tables I & IV; and Figures 18 & 19.

Support for new claim 55 can be found at, *inter alia*, page 28, lines 18-20; Tables I & IV; and Figures 18 & 19.

Support for new claim 56 can be found at, *inter alia*, page 169, lines 23-31.

The support provided above is exemplary and not exhaustive, hence the inclusion of the term "*inter alia*." The pending claims do not add new matter, and Applicants respectfully request their entry.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the foregoing amendments and remarks, and early allowance of the pending claims. The Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned if she has any questions regarding these amendments.

Respectfully submitted,
Sirna Therapeutics, Inc.
A Wholly Owned Subsidiary of Merck & Co., Inc.

Date: May 19, 2009

 /Wenfang Chen/
Wenfang Chen
Registration No. 52,729
Attorney for Applicants,
in accordance with MPEP 1.34

1700 Owens Street, 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94158
Phone: (415) 814-8422
Email: wenfang_chen@merck.com